8.2.K.

AN

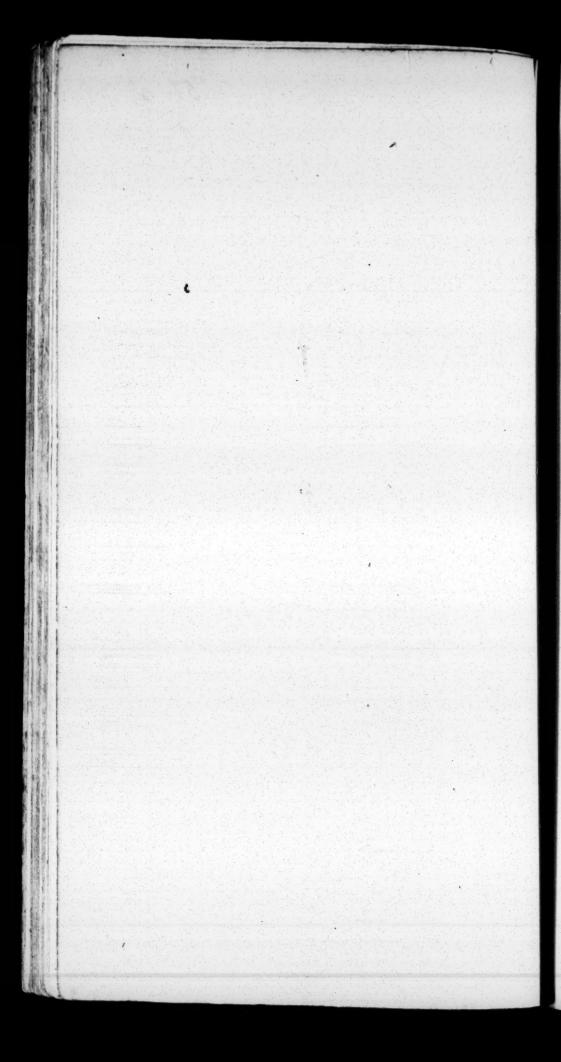
ACCOUNT

OF

Dr. Quincy's Examination

OF

Dr. WOODWARD's State of Physick and Diseases.



AN 551. a.10

ACCOUNT

OF

Dr. QUINCY's

OF

Dr. WOODWARD's

State of PHYSICK and DISEASES.

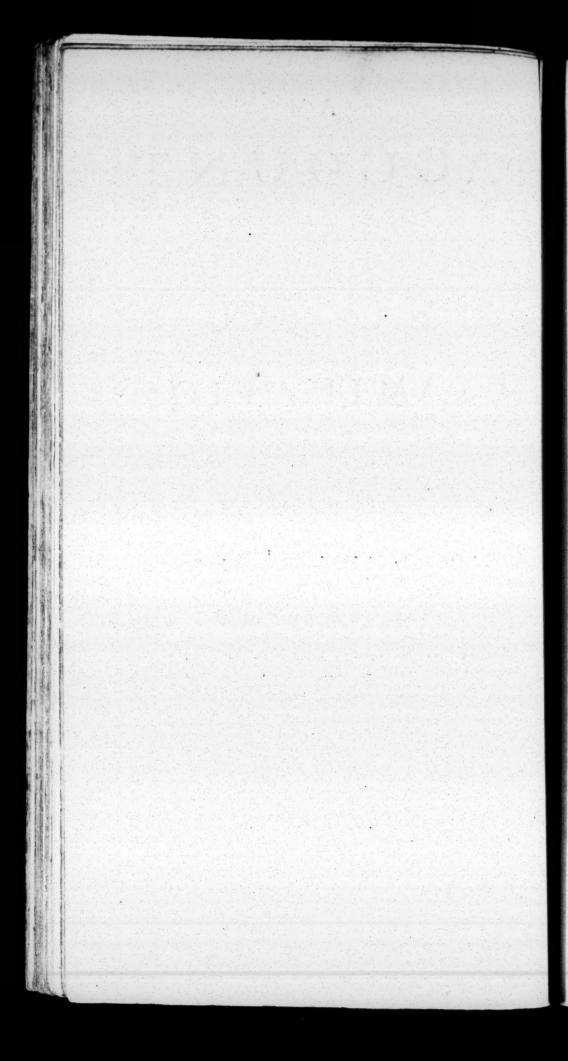
In a LETTER to the

FREE-THINKER.

Quid Domini facient, audent cum talia Fures? Virg.

LONDON:

Printed: And fold by J. Roberts in Warwick-Lane, and A. Dodd at the Peacock without Temble-Bar. 1719. Price Six Pence.



Mr. Free-thinker,

Fear not to be thought a Flatterer, when I join with the greater part of the British World, in acknowledging, that no Man could better acquit himself to the Publick, with regard either to the Title of Free-thinker or Office of Cenfor, than you have done and still continue to do. Your Judgments are as free as your Thoughts, and both as folid as they are free. Of the many good Qualities you have occasion to shew, in treating on fuch variety of Subjects, your Impartiality is that which has most gain'd my Esteem: Nor, to the best of my knowledge (and I assure you that! I have carefully read over all your Lucubrations) have you ever past Sentence, without the concurrent Approbation and Applause of the Brave, the Equitable, and the Learned. This makes me highly jealous

lous of your Reputation, which no Man, that loves agreeable Entertain. ment or found Instruction, can fee attack'd with Unconcern. Nothing has given more general Satisfaction than the Notice you have lately taken, and the Censure you have so justly pass'd, concerning the conduct of cer. tain Men professing Science; who vet in a Controversy, wherein they are nearly interested, have appeal'd from Button's to Billingsgate, from the Pen to Club-law, from thence to the Theatre, and from thence again to Bear-Garden: For no Ground, though of their own chufing, can prove favourable to fuch Combatants. Some Gentlemen, no less provok'd at the indignity of their proceeding, than stirr'd up to a noble Emulation of your Self, have exprest their Detestation of Scholars acting like Porters, or answering Books in any Faculty, otherwise than by publishing Books aby fuch as think themselves competent Judges of the Subject: And it must be confess'd, that they have handfomly expos'd the most unhandfome Method of returning Railing for Reason, and insipid Banter for serious Argu10

1-

95

ng

nc

n,

tly

er-

ho

ire

m

he

he

ar-

of

ou-

me

the

han

our

ion

or

0-

5 2-

ves

bn/

ave

nd-

for

ous guArgument. But for all these Admonitions from you and your Disciples, occasion'd by Dr. Woodward's Antagonifis, they thew themselves still Incorrigible; that is, in effect, Enemies to good Sense and good Breeding, to fair Dealing and polite Learn-Nor is it senough for them to so on abusing the Doctor (who equally scorns and pities them) if they laye not a Fling even at the Freethinker; whose Abilities and Impartidity Men of groveling Spirits can no more bear, than weak Eyes the sun. One Dr. Quincy has lately taken up against Dr. Woo tward those Weaons that feem'd to be laid down as weless by others; and has written a Book, which I am satisfied, without his Information, had never come to our knowledge, no more than the Author of it. This Person has had he Temerity to infinuate, that you vere far from being that upright Censor, for which the World takes ou; as certainly no Man is such who udges by hearsay, or by the report only of one side. Now, this is the ery Figure he makes you to bear, which is an offence I cou'd not lightly pardon pardon in any one, tho' ever fo obscure. He roundly accuses you of having given such a turn to that Preface Pag. 5. Affair, as would lead an unwary Reader into an Apprehension, that Dr. Woodward had been injuriously treated by the Faculty. These are his own Words, and the Excuse he brings for you is good Nature; which I suppose he understands in the same Sense, that certain Women of the Town do. But why, i'God's Name, does he hale in the Faculty? Must one or two Men, whose Pra-Aice is not in all respects approv'd by the Doctor, pass for the Faculty? Or has the World any reason to think that the Faculty will declare for these Men? which is what the Doctor has never suggested, nor what any Man of Observation will ever have reason to say. To return to your felf, Sir; I, that know with what Accuracy you read every thing that's confiderable, and how much you disdain that vile Practice of joining in a Cry against what you never perus'd, was amaz'd to find Dr. Quincy go on in the following Ibid. itrain. This ingenious Cenfor judg a

of

at

n-

A,

11-

fe

ise

e;

in

en

d's

rav'd

ty?

to

are

hat

ver

1 to

with

hing

nuch

oin-

ever

Dr.

wing

en for

udga

judg'd according to the representation made to him of this Affair, which was most certainly done by partial Friends. These Expressions want no Paraphrase, and cannot be read by any of your Admirers without a just Indignation against the Baseness of the Suggestion. Nor has he done yet. You are, it feems, a Creature fo little fix'd in any conception you form of things, that you are ready to be carried away by every Man's idle Story: And therefore (to use still his own Words) he makes no doubt, but you will lay the Fault on the other side, when the matter comes to be stated to you in a true light; that is, in the light which Dr. Quincy or his Patrons will give you; for he takes it for granted that you have never read Dr. Woodward's Book, nor any Book elfe concerning him. He imagines that Weekly Lectures of Learning and Virtue, are like Weekly fournals of Ignorance and Vice, in which things are put in and out, according as the Scribler is well or ill fee'd: And I know of one (to hint it by the by) who very probably got more Fees that way, than ever he'll do in the Practice B

Practice of Physick; which makes me wonder he has not kept to that Profession, which best besitted him. Thus, I fay, are you treated, Sir: and if a Man has so little regard for himself, as to attack in this scandalous manner a Person, whose Honour and Integrity are allowed by univerfal Confent (which are Expressions your Modesty must bear from my Zeal) it will be no Surprise at all, if on other occafions he throws out whatever Malice or Mercenariness works uppermost, But questionless he'll soon be convinc'd, that he has taken the wrong way to make himself considerable. He'll find, that pleasing the World would be an easier Path to Gain, than pleasing one or two Men, if after all he has not displeas'd them; and that propagating of Scandal is no more like to purchase Fame, than for a broken Apothecary to become an opulent or well-reputed Physician. As for what more particularly concerns Doctor Woodward, he's already fufficiently vindicated by very able Persons, who have shewn, that all new and useful Discoveries, with the Authors of them, have been commonly treated in the fame

r

It

y

0

1-

e

t.

7-

g

e.

ld

in

lle

at

e

n

or

at

01

ly

10

ul

n,

ne

ne

same virulent manner: To which let me add, that the loudest Opposers of fuch publick Benefactors have often endeavour'd to retrieve their own Reputation, especially in Physick, by silently falling into their practice; which lam credibly inform'd is now done by fome of those very Persons, who appear the most incens'd against the Doctor. Indeed it is extremely shocking, to fee Men leave the Argument (though to be fure they think it their Interest to have it forgot) and meanly to cavil at the Writer's Language and Deportment. Whoever knows the Doctor, knows at the same time, that he wants no Apology in these respects. But what if he did? Are these Points any thing to his Skill or to the Argument? A Gentleman, who admires Beauty and Innocence wherever he fees them join'd, having been where the Discourie was of Beauty, Miss Meadows, said he, is one of the finest young Ladies I ever saw, notwithstanding she has lately had the Small Pox; to which, though most of the Company readily agreed, yet he cou'd never persuade two of the least agreeable Females there to own it: B 2 for for one objected that her Hoop was not large enough, besides that she seldom play'd with her Fan; and the other, that she never spoke in double entendre, nor often but when she was fpoke to. For these Reasons the young Lady is not a Beauty, and for as weighty ones Dr. Woodward has neither Skill nor Behaviour, nor confequently understands the Art of Physick. But this learned Gentleman, who's celebrated every where abroad, and efteem'd by all true Judges at home, wants not at this time of day to write for Fame or Fortune, whatever he may do for the Welfare of Mankind; and thereforein all probability, will fay nothing to a Man, who in effect fays nothing to him. Nor really does he fay a word to the purpose for those, whose Quarrel he has taken up; which, whether it be done more out of Charity to them or himself, is not so difficult a matter to guess. The better however to do it, let's hear him a little. He fays that, upon the first perufal of Dr. Woodward's State of Physick and Diseases, it sem'd to him of singular a Performance, and so far out of the common way of thinking, as made 11

d

ot

18

or

e-

ng

ng

rd

ar-

ner

10

t a

ver

tle. pe-

of

him far

, as

made him believe it could never come into much regard, especially so as to require any publick Remarks. This verily is a most singular Observation: Since its being out of the common way of thinking, if it be not a strong Prefumption of its being right, yes certainly is a strong Reason it should be narrowly fifted; and next to impossible it should not be publickly remark'd upon, fince it attack'd what is by fome but too publickly maintain'd and practis'd. This is a fad Beginning, yet very fuitable to the End. The Man talks of Clamour and Calumny, of Deceptions and what not, scatter'd abroad by the Doctor's Friends: whereas every body knows, that they fat quiet under the new accession of Reputation he has deservedly acquir'd, by a Performance fo useful to the World; till his Antagonists, and fuch as they could hire, fill'd the Town with the most unmanly Scolding, fenfeless Drollery, and lewd Buffoonery, that were scarce ever known on any occasion, but never on such an occasion as this. He owns, it's true, the part which the publick very rightly takes in this Affair, as well as that the

the clamour begun on the other side, which are Facts that could not eafily be deny'd by the most effronted. But alas, the Reason is manifest: Toey Ibid. are more byass'd (says he) by their Affections than their Judgments; and, as such, are naturally inclin'd to interest themselves on that side which appears to have been injur'd. O filly and foft-hearted Publick! You approve a Book because you like it, and you compassionate a Man that is injur'd! Who would ever appeal to the Pub. lick after this? And was it not by reafon of fuch weakness, think you, that one of Dr. Woodward's Friends made An Appeal to common Senfe? Which without dispute is a heinous Crime, especially in a Divine. Doctor Quincy has not done with the Publick yet, as forefeeing belike that it will not prove very favourable to Himfelf or his Work. Wherefore he's refolv'd to cry Whore first. The Publick, fays he very gravely, is frequent-Ibid. ly show'd matters in false lights: and I dare answer, for any light he's like to show matters in, that the Publick will never complain of being missed by him. But why this Out-CIY

e,

ly

ut

ey

err

id,

111-

ich

Uy

ove

ou

'd!

ub-

ea-

hat

ade

nich

me,

incy

yet,

not

or

lv'd

lick,

ent-

hts:

he's

Pub-

eing

Jui-

CIY

cry against the poor Publick? Since if we believe this Man, even against all the light of our own Eyes and Understandings, none, or very Page 5. few, have read the Doctor's Book. Where's the Danger then, either to the Publick, or to Dr. Quincy's Patrons? Yea, Dr. Woodward's Book has not only not been much read, but it neither requires nor deserves any notice at all, quoth our new Zoilus. Nevertheless, his Time lies so heavily on his Hands, that he's fully determin'd to answer it, ay marry will he: for which he gives as good a Reason, as I fancy he ever gave for any thing, and it is; that though professing himself both a Stranger and an Enemy to all that has been bitberto said about it and the Author, yet he'll undeceive the World in relation to fuch gross misrepresentations as have been already mention'd. and that have been founded on its neglett. Dr. Quincy should have remember'd here, who they are that ought to have good Memories. What! an absolute Stranger to whatever has been faid concerning this matter, and yet Scribble in order to fet the Publick lick right about them! an Enemy to what has been faid with regard to the Author, and yet declaim against him with more unfairnefs, indecency, and scurrility, than all the other Jackpuddings and Merry-Andrews put to. gether! What a hopeful Advocate is this, I was going to fay Prostitute? for fuch he plainly appears every where to be, especially to Dr. Mead; who, if I do not miltake him, will not be over-proud of fuch a Second: at least Dr. Woodward's Friends will no more envy the one, than himself dread the other. But pray, Mr. Free-thinker, take due notice in your Paper of that stale and threadbare Pretence, viz. that Books are read by no body, nor worth any body's answering; when the very Men who fay fo, not only do their best to answer them, but make such a tragical noise, as if the whole World were in danger. This is to give the Lye to themselves, and to put the Publick upon reading, contrary to the Intentions of fuch Wretches. This Subject, Sir, if I may presume to give you my Opinion, deserves a Lecture or two by it felf; and among the numerous Pretenders, who usher into the agivere e to olick ten-Subgive ture nuinto the

to

the

nim

and

ick-

to-

e is

for

iere

ho,

t be

east

ore

the

ake

Itale

that

any

Men

t to

the World 'their trifling Answers to excellent Books with tuch an affected Preface, you cannot take your hint from any one with more advantage. than from Dr. Quincy's Examination of Dr. Woodward's State of Physick and Difeases. I am aware, however, that Dr. Quincy has something to say in his own behalf, at least his Patrons may do well to fay it for him: which is, that he has no way contradicted himself, since he has not answer'd either the whole or any part of Dr Woodward's Book; and that he knows nothing at all about the Doctor, as he has no less wisely than truly affirm'd, no more than if he had never read him. Cavilling at Expressions the most apt and clear that could be us'd, tacking things together that have no reference or relation, mangling Pafsages or martyring them by his forc'd Constructions, and misunderstanding the matter every where, or mifreprefenting it, without offering any thing of his own that's fignificant or intelligible, nay not fo much as justifying the Practice of those whom he pretends fo profoundly to venerate, is all the Answer he has given Dr. Woodward

ward in a Book of 96 Pages close Print, and a Preface of 16. What has he been doing then all that while, will you fay? Why, nothing elfe, Sir, but bespattering his Paper and the Doctor, without forgetting to dash your Worship into the bargain. Did I not scruple to take up much of the time you fo generously devote to the Pleasure and Improvement of the publick; I could entertain you with feveral choice Maxims he lays down about not answering the Doctor at all, or nothing to the purpose: Such as, that it is a Page 6. difficult thing to answer him with feriousness, which is the reason, without all doubt, why he and the rest have answered him only in jest; or, which is the same thing, pretended to answer him when they meant no fuch matter, and knew it to be wholly impossible. But if this will not do, there's still another better Reason in store; namely, that the Doctor's Hypothesis is a trifle, be dares say, will not engage the attention of any one Person: And I frankly own, that if nothing could be alledg'd against this Assertion, but that 2,

d

to

n.

ch le-

re-

erms

ng

the

s a bim

on,

the

est;

ore-

hey

w it

this

bet-

sely,

sis is

gage

nd I

ould

, but

that

that it has prodigiously engag'd the Attention of Dr. Quincy, it might be as true as it is falle; fince, in the Opinion of others, as well as by this his own Confession, he's no Body at all. Well, if neither these nor the like Allegations will hold good, for not answering Dr. Woodward, or not answering him to the purpose; there are, it feems, some private Motives, some Arcana in Medical Politicks, why no body must answer him with truth or good manners: And Dr. Quincy has unluckily blab'd out the reality of this fecret, in fairly acknowledging, that no Page 11. body has as yet engag'd with him on terms of Decency and Candor. The Devil speaks Truth sometimes, nor did he ever make a more ingenuous Confession; but there are certain truths that might shame even the Devil himself, of which this cannot be deny'd to be one: For what Conduct towards any Man can be more Inhuman, or more Barbarous, or more Infamous? But the most amazing part of all is, that one who profest, as I show'd you before, to disalow fuch a Proceeding, ay, and be

be an Enemy to it, should fall into the same vein of ribbaldry and mifre. presentation himself, with more Ve. hemence and Rancor (as all Pickthanks over-act their parts) than his very Patrons or Masters, or whoe. ver thought fit to loo him on. Those measures, which the Town condemns with no faint Marks of resentment, he giddily purfues, and pumps his Noddle to find an Apology for them. He hopes the freedom he takes Page 8. with the Toctor, the Acrimony and warmth with which he uses him, will not be thought greater than the peculiarity of his Style, and the usage he gives to others, will justify. On my Word, a pleasant Jetence of Defamation! Because a Man has a peculiar Style, as infallibly every Man has, he must not be allow'd to have either Sense or Learning, he must not be treated with Decency or Candor, he must be vilify'd, slander'd, drest up in a Sanbenito, and affassinated O, but the Doctor has given ill usage to others. This, were it true, as nothing is farther from being fo, would be no Excuse for Dr. Quincy, whole Name

into

ifre-

Ve.

ick-

his

hoe-

hose

emns

nent,

his

hem.

takes

mony

him,

s the

u fage

f De-

a pe-

Man

have

It not

ndor.

dreit

nated.

u fage

as no-

would

whole Name

On

Name was not as much as known to Dr. Woodward. Besides, that the Gentlemen he thinks injur'd could justify themselves, or they could not. If this last be the case, as most Peopleare inclin'd to believe, Dr. Quincy, who allows 'em to be fo much his Superiors, and who proclaims 'em the most eminent of the Faculty, could not in modesty hope to succeed better; not to speak of his Officiousness in thrusting his Sickle into other Men's Corn, though I will not fay that he came unbid. Or supposing those Gentlemen thought themselves able to answer for their own Practice, what other Construction can be put upon their not doing of it? But that having fomething to do, and Dr. Quincy nothing, they devolv'd the Drudgery upon him, and like wife the Dishonour, in case their Defence should be deem'd infufficient. Do not imagine, however, that I blame him meerly for writing against Dr Woodward. 'Tis every Man's Duty to warn the Publick of fuch Errors, as he judges may be detrimental or fatal to it: And should

his Zeal exceed his Discernment, every other Man has a right to shew him his Fear was greater than the Danger. Nor, upon these self-evident grounds, would any Man be blam'd for Writing against the Do-Etor's State of Physick, as he himself has written against some things, that in the practice of others he judg'd Pernicious to Mankind, which was a very laudable Undertaking. But answering with Falshood and Invevectives, is what neither any Author, nor others for him, will ever be able to wipe off. Wherefore as a flagrant Example, Sir, of fuch treatment, and as a thing to be detested and proscrib'd in the Republick of Letters, as well as to fuggest (as you have often desir'd your Readers to do) a proper Topick for a new Lecture, I shall here present you with a small Nofegay of fuch Flowers or Weeds (of which your Eyes and your Nose are left to judge) as grow in Dr. Quincy's luxuriant Garden. In every Page almost he charges Dr. Woodward with a fingularity and peculiarity of Style, to use his own Words, with a peculiar and affected way of Expresfion:

e

olf

at 'd

as

ut e-

r,

le nt

nd

0-

rs, ve

, 1

all

eds

ose

Dr.

ery

ard

of h a

ef-

n;

sion. His Language and Sentiments, favs he, are equally peculiar, he has a strange swell of Sound, he writes in a confus'd and untelligible manner, he reads as well as writes without Ideas, he's incomprehensible and uses a deceitful way of talking, his expressions are awkward and uncouth, with a Thousand such Puerilities nauseously repeated. Then as to the Doctor himself, he's (if you'll believe his declar'd Enemies) rather the Object of Laughter than of Envy, producing a great deal of Ridicule and no ferious Notice, taking all Advantages of Detraction, bringing every one's Practice into difrepute but his own, reflecting upon others, and inveighing against them at all Adventures and on all Occasions, a Thrower of Scandal for Scandal fake, spreading and fixing Accusations of reproach, and the greatest Merit (another Name for Dr. Mend) has the largest share of his Talent at Detraction. But this is not all, he's a Man who has no Meaning, full of himfelf, using sham Credentials, fond and bigotted of his own Conceits, supporting

porting a Scheme at all Adventures, contradicting the Sense of all Mankind, and having a strange Inclination to differ from them; complimenting his own peculiar way of thinking, advancing stupendous things, contradicting Reason and Nature, leading People into a Maze and Wilderness of Contradiction, transgressing in such a manner on common Sense, as cannot easily be forgiven, and full of Abfurdities very irksome to speak of. Now to use shorter expressions, Doctor Woodward, according to Dr. Quincy, is Offensive, Absurd, Ridiculous, Palpably Ridiculous, Weak, Malicious, Difingenuous, Ill-natur'd, Conceited, Ignorant, Affected, Inconsistent, Contradictory, Infincere, Unjust, a Colluder, a Falsifyer, nay a palpable Falsificator, a Deluder, a notorious Deceiver, a Perverter, a false Accuser, a Traducer, a Haranguer of the Populace, a Dreamer, and a Hypothesis-maker. Then, as to his Doctrine and Practice, the Absurdities and Contradictions in his Hypothesis are numberless, he does not understand the Laws of Circulation or of Motion, he's Stranger

-

n

g

a-

ng

ess

ch

n-

b-

WC

od-

Of-

bly

ge-

int,

ory,

alsi-

, 4

Per-

cer,

rea-

hen,

the

n his

does

cula-

great

nger

Stranger in Anatomy, unacquainted with the Animal occonomy, and ignorant of all mechanical Laws and Properties: he has a Passion to become confiderable by Peculiarities and Contradiction; he substitutes in the room of receiv'd and well-examin'd Opinions, Conceits and Guesses of his own; he puts off his Conjectures with the Air and Assurance of a System of Knowledge; but his own System is arbitrary, inconsistent, and absurd, as his System and Machine of Man is worthy of the Author and Framer of it, he being entirely ignorant of the Mechanism of a human Body, and the necessary requisites to form a true judgment of it in Health and Sickness. He rambles through Fairy Paths and a bewilder'd Hypothesis, his Practice with relation to Vomits is narrow and insufficient, injurious and destructive: and to fum up all in one Passage (for we should never have done if we particulariz'd all) Dr. Wood-Work, page 71. ward has not drop'd one bint, nor even one consistent Sentence, comporting with the Rules and Laws of Nature, either in his Idea of Man, bis Account of Diseases, or his Discourse

course of Remedies. This is a Whapper with a Witness! but well agreeing with what he delivers in another place, where he fancies that Page 51. Dr. Woodward would not take it well, to have his fine Hypothe. fis made a foundation for the interpretation of dreams, and a mechanical Theory of nonsense; but it seems so exactly calculated, adds he, for such Indicrous purpofes, that it is very difficult to make any other use of it. Now, Sir, should any Man that had the least Remains of common Sense or Prudence, tho' void of all Modesty and Honour, read over his own Work, and perceive the quarter of this abominable stuff, he would immediately strike out three parts in four of that quarter, in order to have the rest believ'd, or to make some impression. But far be it from Dr. Quincy (who, great Man, scarce allows Dr. Woodward to be of human Race, and who's glad to find he will vouchsafe to think in any respect like other men) to blot out a Syllable of what he has once written.

e-

er

at

not be-

recal

uch iffi-

ow,

ru-

and ork,

botely

that

be-

vho.

ood-

will

like

e of

Et quodeunque semel chartis illeverit, omnes, Gestiet a surno redeuntes seire lacuque, Et pueros & anus. Horat.

Thus, Sir, an obscure Fellow, unconcern'd and unprovok'd, has with no less Impertinence and Scurrility, than Stupidity and Ignorance, endeavour'd to get himself some Name by attacking a worthy Physician, so successful, and at the same time so disinterested, as to be no less an Ornament to his Profession, than a good Angel to his Patients, being naturally of a beneficent and compassionate Disposition. Dr. Woodward's Fame is sufficiently spread among the learned all over Europe; he's as communicative as he's curious, and never more pleas'd than when he's obliging ingenious Men, to whom his choice Library and his rare Collection are always open. His Reputation for polite Literature, consummate Skill in Medicine, and a deep infight into the abstrusest parts of Natural Philosophy is universally establish'd, not without sufficient grounds to

to the confusion of Envy it felf. His Natural History of the Earth was bought up with avidity (at the very first) by such Foreigners as understood English; till for the Satisfaction of fuch as did not, it was tranflated into Latin, not by a Hackney News-writer, or Bankrupt Apothecary, but by Dr. Scheuchzer, a famous Professor abroad. No Man (in a word) is oftner mention'd with Applause in print by the Curious, than Doctor Woodward; and the bare Correspondence between him and them may one day afford feveral entertaining and instructive Volumes to the World. So that, upon the whole, he's as different from his present Adversary, as Fame is from Obscurity, or Knowledge from Ignorance. So very ignorant indeed is the Animal that now barks at the Moon, as to join Monfieur Des Cartes and Mr. Locke, Pag. 23. labouring hard to bring Matter and Thought together, which neither of 'em ever attempted. Des Cartes affirms the Nature of Matter and Spirit (which last with him is equivalent for thinking) to be fo dif-

ferent, that they agree in nothing but

lis

Vas

the

un-

tis-

an-

ney

he-

fain a

Ap-

than Cor-

hem

tain-

the hole,

Ad-

rity,

o ve-

that

Mon-

Mat-

nei-

Des latter

m is

o dif-

10

in being Substances: and Mr. Locke fays, that the Nature of Body is not so well known, nor also the Essence of Thought, but that, for ought we can tell, a certain System of Matter may by God be endu'd with the Faculty of thinking. Yet he no where pretends this to be actually fo. Thus, in another place our Man of Mechanism and Chymistry says, that how a red colour should result from a mixture of Salts, that were none of them of that colour in a State of Separation, is hard to conceive: as if the mixture of two or more Bodies of different Colours (be they Salts or what you please) nay of two things of the same colour, could not produce another colour perfectly different, of which every Dyer's Boy might certify him. Had he never the curiofity himself to make Sympathetick lnk, by mixing the infusion of Saccharum Saturni with that of Lime and Orpiment, none of which are black in a State of Separation, clear as may be? Or does he not know, that common Ink is made of the infusion of Galls and Copperas? But why should I any longer spend yours

or

or my own time about one, who scarce opens his Mouth without making a Bull? Of which to give you an In-stance or two, he talks of Men Page 83. whose curiosity may incite them to overlook this controversy, which is certainly an odd kind of Curiosity. I wonder what Country Man he is!

This Repullulation, says he, fpeaking of the Small Pox, is known in many instances of this Distemper, by those who have been conversant therewith, though rarely; and five hundred more such blunders, that will not bear repeating.

To name only one other, the Animal Spirits are in Nerves as manifestly, according to him, as the Blood is in the Arteries and Veins; which must mean, that we see, and feel, and taste those Spirits, as we do the Blood: For if their existence be only inferr'd from effects, that may be ascrib'd to another cause, they are plainly disputable; and therefore far from manifest, though they should really exist. Yet all such Improprieties might be overlook'd, were it not for the impurities of his Style, which it is a Million to one but he takes e

2

n

is

y.

e,

Χ,

en

·e-

ch

ıg.

be

the

to ies

nat

pi-

eir

As,

ife,

re-

ney

m-

ere

vle,

he

kes

takes for Urbanity. This puts me in mind of his Panegyrical Flourishes on the Gentlemen he defends, which no body would Criticize or perhaps mind, were it not for his execrable usage of the Gentleman he opposes. His Patrons are not only Persons of Character (for which I hope they can vouch more than his Word) and very confiderable in the Faculty; but also Persons that have deserv'd Dr. Woodward's Envy, by a Superiority of Reputation and Practice, and vastly Superior to taking any notice of him. Paper-Quarrels are as much below Dr. Mead's notice in particular, as his Character is Superior to all manner of Competition with the Promoters of them. Sometimes Dr. Quincy's Masters are Men of the greatest Eminence in the Faculty, and at other times the most eminent now in the Profession, those of the greatest Eminence in it; which cannot but infinitely oblige all the rest of the Physicians in England, no less than Dr. Woodward. 'Tis comical enough to see all Excellencies bestow'd with so prodigal a Hand, by a Man, who does not appear to have any one good good Quality; but exactly refemble Seneca's Gods, omnia dantes nibil ba hentes: Or rather he's like a Gypfy who begs a Penny from the Mai whom he promifes Riches any Creature Never did at fuch a rate. I heartily ask you Pardon, Sir, for occasioning your At tention to descend so low; but, in little time, I hope to make you a Dr. Woodward's Writing mends. cannot fail to gratify the Inquisitive and the Impartial, while the Prejudic'd and the Interested will continue to fnarl, to calumniate, to give falle Glosses, to raise a Dust, to rake in the Kennel, and to buffoon. I am,

SIR.

Your most observant

Friend and Admirer,

Middle Temple, Sept. 1. 1719. N.N.

